

Natural History Committee Newsletter.

No 13

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March 2005

Annual meeting 2005 in Jakobstad / Pietarsaari (Finland) - June 14-17, 2005

Dear colleagues,
dear members and friends of ICOM-NATHIST,

for some years there has been no annual conference of our committee. One of the most important tasks of the newly elected board in Seoul is to revive our annual meetings. Eirik Granqvist made in Seoul an invitation to come to Finland and S.K. Saraswat promised one meeting for 2006 in Mysore, India.

To be able to announce this year's annual conference to you, is a great pleasure for me. And I hope that many of you will find time and money to come to Jakobstad / Pietarsaari in June.

My best wishes on behalf of the board of ICOM-NATHIST
Gerhard Winter (chairperson)

Introduction

We continue on our main theme from Seoul "Intangible natural heritage" and in 2005 we focus on the life in the cooler regions in the northern parts of our earth. We will discuss how man and nature survive under these conditions and especially "How to present" this theme in exhibitions of natural history museums.

One excursion will take us to the islands and islets with wooded meadows and splendid flowers within the archipelago. During the second one we visit the ecosystems within the boreal woodlands: peatlands and forests with small water bodies. We will experience a very unique nature in Finland just before midsummer

About the uniqueness of Finnish Nature you find more on the internet page <http://www.metsa.fi/natural/nature/index.htm> presented by Metsähallitus, the Natural Heritage Services of Finland.

Our themes

- **Man & Nature in the Arctic**

For a long time man managed to survive in the arctic region, and developed methods to cope with the "harsh" conditions. What are the conditions to live in an extreme cold environment? How can we present in our exhibitions "Ice age" and nowadays living and exploring the nature in this region.

- **Intangible Natural Heritage**

During the triennial 2004-2007 we will reflect on "Intangible Natural Heritage" as one of our key topics and find as many different cases as possible to represent the complex way of nature. If possible – we will present this in a final publication.

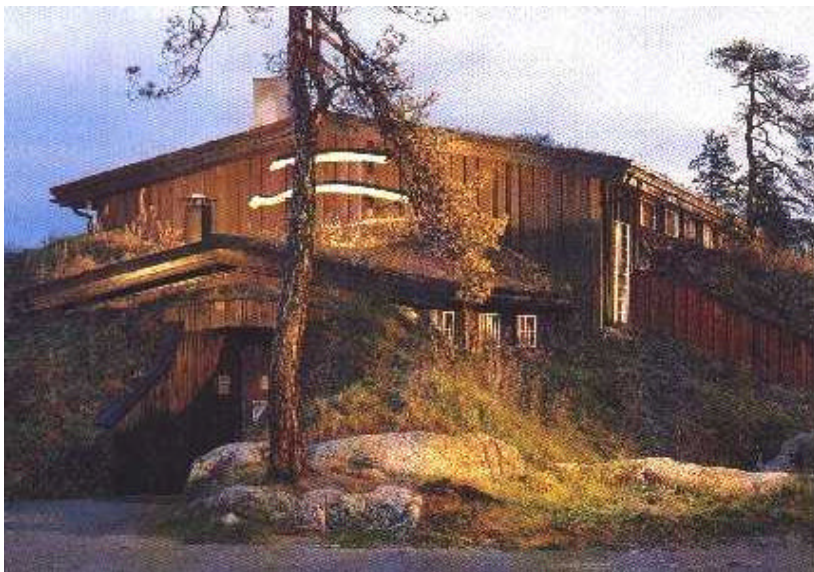
- **Conservation of Natural History Objects**

Despite all advanced databases and "modern" electronical possibilities of communication, the most valuable items for us are the type specimens housed in our collections. Therefore we should not neglect the ongoing development of safekeeping and preservation of natural history objects in collections and especially in our exhibitions.

We meet at

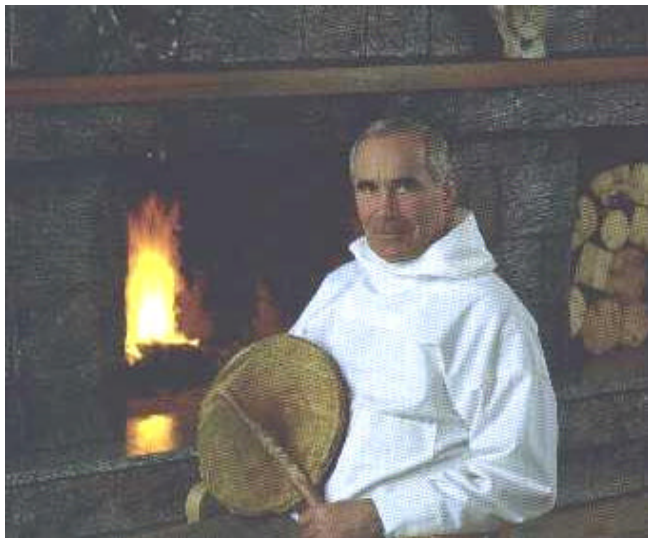
Arctic Museum "Nanoq"

There is no better place to meet and talk about about this theme, than the famous Arctic Museum, called "Nanoq", which is the word for polar bear in Greenland.



More about Nanoq on the internet: [Nanoq 1](#) & [Nanoq 2](#)

A peat house in northern Greenland has served as a model for the main building of Nanoq. This peat house is considered to be the northernmost building in the world. In the same manner as peat houses fit in their environment, Nanoq has been carefully integrated into the surrounding natural environment. The main building is surrounded by cottages built of timber from demolished buildings. The museum reflects an ecological way of thinking.



It was built by polar explorer Pentti Kronqvist with a large group of enthusiasts and opened in 1991. He is our generous host for the annual meeting and we are very happy to come to his museum.

Eirik Granqvist is our senior advisor at the board of NATHIST, elected in Seoul. He made all arrangements for this annual conference and we have to thank him very much for this work.

He has planned and established many museums and he is building a new "Ice age museum" at present, and is deeply involved in the main theme of our meeting.



The skill and experience of Pentti Kronqvist and Eirik Granqvist are the best prerequisites for a successful meeting in 2005.

Nanoq is located at

Pietarsaari or Jakobstad (Finland)

The place where we meet is a small town, Pietarsaari with about 22.000 inhabitants. It is situated in the middle of Finland on the coast of the Gulf of Bothnia.

You find it on the map at lat 63°40' North and 22°41' East.

The town is known under two names. It was founded in 1652 by the widow of military commander Jacob de la Gardie, and was granted city privileges by Queen Christina of Sweden. The Swedish name, *Jakobstad*, literally means *Jacob's city* or *Jacob's town*.

The name *Pietarsaari* lives on as the Finnish name of the municipality, as the town was founded at the old harbour of the parish *Pedersöre*.

For more information please write to:

Staden Jakobstads Turistbyrå

Köpmansgatan 12, FIN-68600 Jakobstad, Finland

They are very friendly and helpful and provide citymaps and brochures.

On the internet available: [City map](#) with [street finder \(Gatuadresser\)](#)
[Tourist information](#) (Very friendly and quickly service with "[Turistbroschyrer](#)")
[Webcam square](#) - [Webcam street](#) [Weather](#)

How to get there?

- **by plane**

The nearest airport is Kokkola-Pietarsaari (code KOK, named Kruunupyyl). It is only about 1h10min by direct flight from Helsinki (code HEL, named Helsinki-Vantaa) or 1h50min with a stopover in Vaasa. There are about 4 to 8 connections daily.

Please check the flight connections under <http://www.finnair.com>.

Between the airport and Jakobstad (Pietarsaari) there is a regular bus. The distance is about 25 km.

- **by train**

The nearest railway station is Pännäinen. From Helsinki there are up to 8 Express trains or InterCity trains per day. It takes about 4,5 hours and costs about 50 EUR. Please check the schedule under <http://www.vr.fi/heo/eng/index.html>

Where to stay?

(Information will be available soon and send to registered participants)

The conference fee is 50 EUR.

Information and contact:

Eirik Granqvist, Senior advisor at NATHIST board, email istid@gumbostrand.fi

Gerhard Winter, chairperson NATHIST, email gerhard.winter@senckenberg.de

Monday - June 13

From 19:00 onward - meeting for those already arrived
at Restaurant SESAM, Rådhusgatan 5, (tel. +358 (0)6 723 7003)
Closed on Mondays, open for NATHIST participants only

Tuesday - June 14

9:30 Meeting at townhall place - in front of Restaurant SESAM
for transfer by bus to Arctic museum NANOQ

A registration desk will be open during the first day of the conference.
The conference fee of 50 EUR will be collected there.

10:00 **Welcome** by
representative of the town of Jakobstad,
Pentti Kronqvist - Director of NANOQ
Eirik Granqvist - Local organiser for annual meeting of ICOM-NATHIST
and senior adviser at NATHIST board
Gerhard Winter - chairperson of ICOM-NATHIST

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30- 13:00 Visit of **Arctic Museum NANOQ** guided by Pentti Kronqvist

13:00-15:00 LUNCH (typical local fish) at a Restaurant on the beach, within 1 km walking
distance

15:00-18:00 **Theme "Man & Nature in the Arctic"**

18:30-20:30 Old fashion traditional finnish steam bath at NANOQ (towels will be provided)

Transfer to town

Dinner at one's own expense

Wednesday - June 15

9:30 Meeting at townhall place - in front of Restaurant SESAM
for transfer by bus to Arctic museum NANOQ

10:00-13:00 **Theme "Intangible Natural Heritage"**

13:00-15:00 LUNCH (typical local fish) at a Restaurant on the beach, within 1 km walking
distance

15:00-17:00 **Theme "Conservation of Natural History Objects"**

short break

17:30 -18:30 **General Assembly of NATHIST**

Transfer to town

Dinner at one's own expense

Thursday - June 16

Full day excursion to "Archipelago in the Gulf of Bothnia"

by boat

9:30 Meeting at townhall place in front of Restaurant SESAM

"Tracking the ice age, bird life and seals and mans activity

Lunch and dinner in the traditional way of ice age man"

Please bring with you: binoculars, walking boots and rain coat (in case of bad weather)

At this time of the year there is no night in the arctic, and we will return to Jakobstad very very late this evening.

Friday - June 17

9:30 Meeting at townhall place in front of Restaurant SESAM

Transfer to the town of Nykarleby (about 20 km)

10:00 **Welcome at Nykarleby** (by town authorities)

Visit to "**St. Birgitta**" church in Nykarleby - one of the oldest, wooden and very decorated churches of Finland

12:00-13:30 snack in one of the small restaurants

(at one's own expense)

13:30 Leaving for **excursion to "deep taiga woods"**

(Boreal coniferous forest and peat bogs)

Walking with Eirik Granqvist on a special guided tour

Please bring with you: binoculars, walking boots and rain coat (in case of bad weather)

18:00 Visit to a "Elk hunters cottage" with presentation of traditional hunting of elk as well as modern hunting

Farewell party with traditional elk-meat stew

(dinner offered by the hunting society)

in the middle of the forest besides a very beautiful lake

surrounded by the sounds of arctic nature in summer time.

(Mosquito repellent will be provided, if necessary)

Returning to Jakobstad late in the evening.

Call for registration and papers

NATHIST invites all members and friends to register as soon as possible.

Please send your proposals for papers, posters and short communications

by June 1, 2005

(use the form enclosed, also available as [word95-file](#) or as [pdf-file](#) on our homepage)

NATHIST homepage: nathist.icom.museum

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Board elected at Seoul for 2004-2007

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Natural History

Sciences Naturelles

Ciencias Naturales

REGISTRATION - PRESENTATION OF PAPER / POSTER / SHORT COMMUNICATION

Please change this word95 document before returning or - if printed out - tick appropriate.

I will attend the annual meeting of ICOM NATHIST in Jakobstad, June 14-17, 2005

I will present a

- Paper (about 20 minutes) Deadline for the abstract (300-400 words) is June, 1st.
- Poster
- Short communication

under section Man & Nature in the Arctic
 Intangible Natural Heritage
 Conservation of Natural Heritage

Title

I need Beamer for powerpoint presentation
 Overhead projector
 Slide projector
 Other _____

Name

Institution

Country

Fax

Email

- I am a member of ICOM-NATHIST
- I am a member in another international committee of ICOM: _____
- Other _____

ICOM membership number:

Date

Signature

Please return this form as soon as possible (not later than June 1st, 2005)

by fax to **+49 69 7542 331** or as email attachment to **gerhard.winter@senckenberg.de**
 or by mail to: Gerhard Winter, SenckenbergMuseum
 Senckenberganlage 25, DE-60325 Frankfurt am Main, Germany